

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

1-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A nutrient matrix which is used to form a layer of nutrient matrix on at least partially denuded land and to establish vegetation on said at least partially denuded land by a non-plowing method, comprising:

Biological materials 60-90 wt.%

Binder 5-20 wt.%

Water retentive agent 0.1-5 wt.%

Plant nutrients 2-15 wt.%.

in which the particle size of said biological material is 3-100 meshes, ~~preferably 5-30 meshes, and more preferably 10-20 meshes.~~

14. (Currently Amended) The nutrient matrix of claim 13, wherein said biological material is selected from the group consisting of crop refuse, dejecta of animals, municipal waste which is substantially separated from metal, plastic, glass and other undesired preselected substance, and mixtures thereof.

15. (Original) The nutrient matrix of claim 13, wherein said binder is preferably selected from the group consisting of starch, pre-gelatinized starch, modified starch, other polysaccharides and mixtures thereof.

16. (Original) The nutrient matrix of claim 13, wherein said water retentive agent is compound resin which can absorb water.

17. (Original) The nutrient matrix of claim 13, wherein said plant nutrients include nitrogen, phosphor and/or kalium.

18. (Original) The nutrient matrix of claim 13, wherein desired plant seeds are added into said nutrient matrix.

19. (Currently Amended) The nutrient matrix of claim 13, wherein the volume weight (wet volume weight) of said nutrient matrix is 0.30-1.30 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, preferably 0.40-0.90 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, and more preferably 0.55-0.65 g/cm<sup>3</sup>; the overall porosity of said nutrient matrix is 30-80%, preferably 40-70%, and more preferably 55-60%.

20. (Currently Amended) The nutrient matrix of claim 13, wherein said nutrient matrix comprises

Biological materials 70-80 wt.%

Binder 6-10 wt.%

Water retentive agent 0.3-2 wt.%

Plant nutrients 4-10 wt.%.

in which the particle size of said biological material is 5-30 meshes, preferably 10-20 meshes.

21. (Currently Amended) A non-plowing method for establishing vegetation on at least partially denuded land by utilizing the nutrient matrix according to claim 13, comprising the steps of:

laying out a continuous layer of said nutrient matrix directly on said at least partially denuded land, ~~said layer of said nutrient matrix~~;

sowing plant seeds on the top surface of said at least partially denuded land before said layer of said nutrient matrix is laid out, or sowing plant seeds into said layer of said nutrient matrix after it is laid out, or mixing plant seeds with the constituents of said layer of said nutrient matrix and laying out together with said layer of said nutrient matrix;

establishing an artificial vegetable cover on said at least partially denuded land by supplying said plant seeds water and nutrient contents contained in said layer of said nutrient matrix to sustain their growth.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the biological material in said nutrient matrix is preferably treated by fermentation process.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein said fermentation process of said biological material is a natural fermentation in the presence of a fermentation agent.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein said plants seeds are added into said biological material after it has undergone said fermentation process.